

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

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"THE HORNS
OF THE
RHINO!"

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN!

"THE HORNS OF THE RHINO!"

BEGINNING:

A GREAT
NEW ERA
IN THE EVER-CHANGING
LIFE OF THE WORLD'S
MOST AMAZING
WEB-SPINNER!

SEE THE RETURN
OF **BETTY BRANT**,
AND THE STARTLING
RESULT THAT FOLLOWS!

SEE THE SURPRISE
APPEARANCE OF
J. JONAH JAMESON'S
ASTRONAUT SON!

SEE THE MOST
EXCITING NEW
PURCHASE PETEY
EVER MADE!

SEE SPIDEY FIGHT
THE **RHINO**--MOST
FEARSOME VILLAIN
OF ALL!

DESPITE THE EXTREME **MODESTY** FOR WHICH
WE'RE SO JUSTLY FAMOUS, WE SIMPLY **HAVE** TO
TELL YOU THAT THIS IS ONE OF THE GREATEST
ACHIEVEMENTS OF--

STAN LEE, WRITER JOHN ROMITA, ARTIST
M. DEMEO, INKER ART SIMEK, LETTERER

MOST SUPER HERO THRILLERS OPEN WITH CONTRIVED ACTION, IN ORDER TO HOOK YOU! BUT WE KNOW YOU'LL HANG AROUND--AND, TO PROVE OUR FAITH IN YOU, LET'S VISIT AUNT MAY...



I'M SO GLAD YOU DROPPED IN, ANNA!

SO AM I, MAY DEAR! THERE'S NOTHING LIKE HAVING SOME TEA AND A TALK WITH A GOOD FRIEND!

BESIDES, I'VE BEEN WANTING TO ASK YOU SOMETHING...

NOW THAT MY NIECE, MARY JANE, TOOK AN APARTMENT OF HER OWN, WHY DON'T YOU SELL THIS HOUSE AND MOVE IN WITH ME?

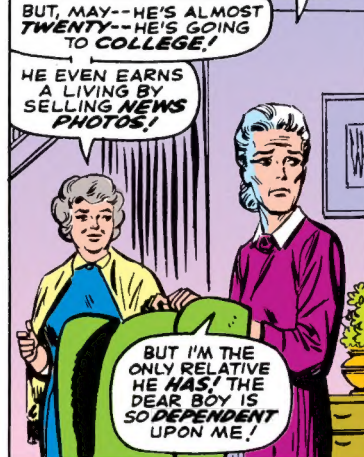


IT WOULD MEAN SUCH A SAVING FOR YOU--AND WE'D BE COMPANY FOR EACH OTHER!

ANNA MAY WATSON! IF YOU AREN'T THE DEAREST THING!

THEN, YOU'LL DO IT?

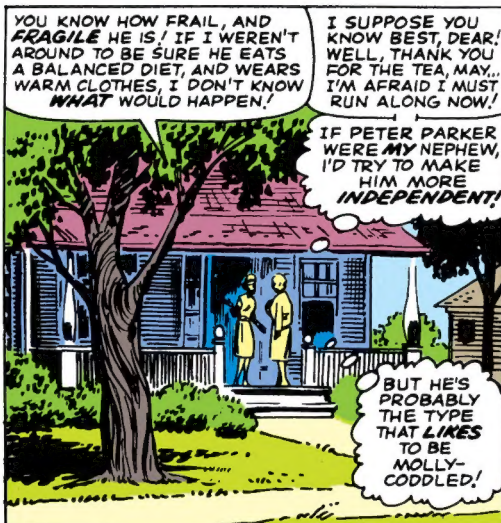
I'D LOVE TO, DEAR--BUT I JUST COULDN'T! THERE'D BE NO ONE TO LOOK AFTER POOR PETER!



BUT, MAY--HE'S ALMOST TWENTY--HE'S GOING TO COLLEGE!

HE EVEN EARNS A LIVING BY SELLING NEWS PHOTOS!

BUT I'M THE ONLY RELATIVE HE HAS! THE DEAR BOY IS SO DEPENDENT UPON ME!

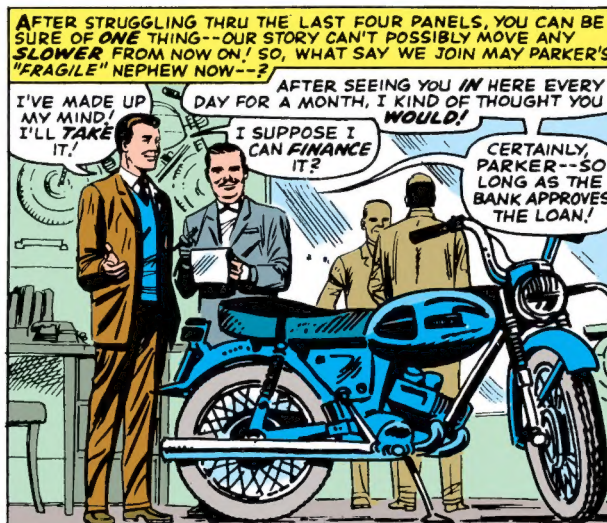


YOU KNOW HOW FRAIL, AND FRAGILE HE IS! IF I WEREN'T AROUND TO BE SURE HE EATS A BALANCED DIET, AND WEARS WARM CLOTHES, I DON'T KNOW WHAT WOULD HAPPEN!

I SUPPOSE YOU KNOW BEST, DEAR! WELL, THANK YOU FOR THE TEA, MAY... I'M AFRAID I MUST RUN ALONG NOW!

IF PETER PARKER WERE MY NEPHEW, I'D TRY TO MAKE HIM MORE INDEPENDENT!

BUT HE'S PROBABLY THE TYPE THAT LIKES TO BE MOLLY-CODDLED!



AFTER STRUGGLING THRU THE LAST FOUR PANELS, YOU CAN BE SURE OF ONE THING--OUR STORY CAN'T POSSIBLY MOVE ANY SLOWER FROM NOW ON! SO, WHAT SAY WE JOIN MAY PARKER'S "FRAGILE" NEPHEW NOW--?

I'VE MADE UP MY MIND! I'LL TAKE IT!

DAY FOR A MONTH, I KIND OF THOUGHT YOU WOULD!

I SUPPOSE I CAN FINANCE IT?

CERTAINLY, PARKER--SO LONG AS THE BANK APPROVES THE LOAN!



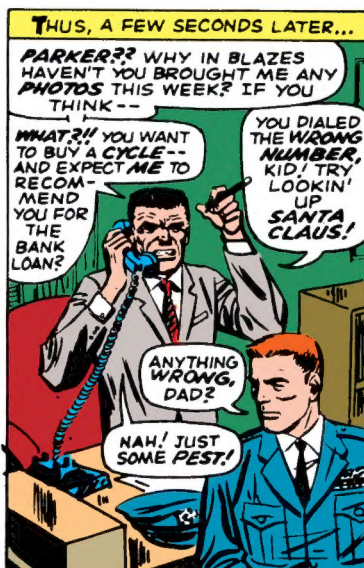
WE'LL NEED A CREDIT REFERENCE, OF COURSE!

OH, THAT WON'T BE ANY PROBLEM! I'VE BEEN SELLING PHOTOS TO JONAH JAMESON FOR YEARS! I'M SURE HE'LL VOUCH FOR ME!

WHY NOT CALL HIM NOW, WHILE I DRAW UP THE PAPERS?

SURE! I DON'T WANNA WASTE A MINUTE!

I WANT THOSE WHEELS SO BAD I CAN TASTE IT!



THUS, A FEW SECONDS LATER...

PARKER?? WHY IN BLAZES HAVEN'T YOU BROUGHT ME ANY PHOTOS THIS WEEK? IF YOU THINK--

WHAT?!! YOU WANT TO BUY A CYCLE--AND EXPECT ME TO RECOMMEND YOU FOR THE BANK LOAN?

YOU DIALED THE WRONG NUMBER, KID! TRY LOOKIN' UP SANTA CLAUS!

ANYTHING WRONG, DAD?

NAH! JUST SOME PEST!

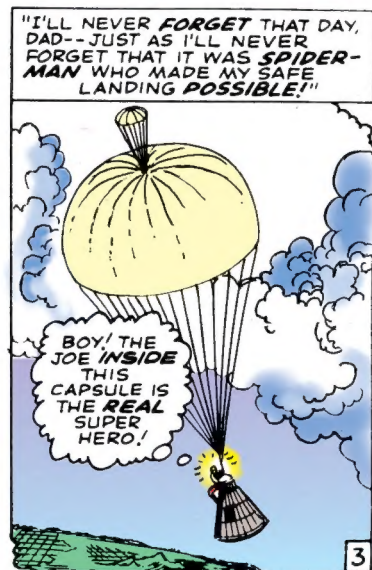
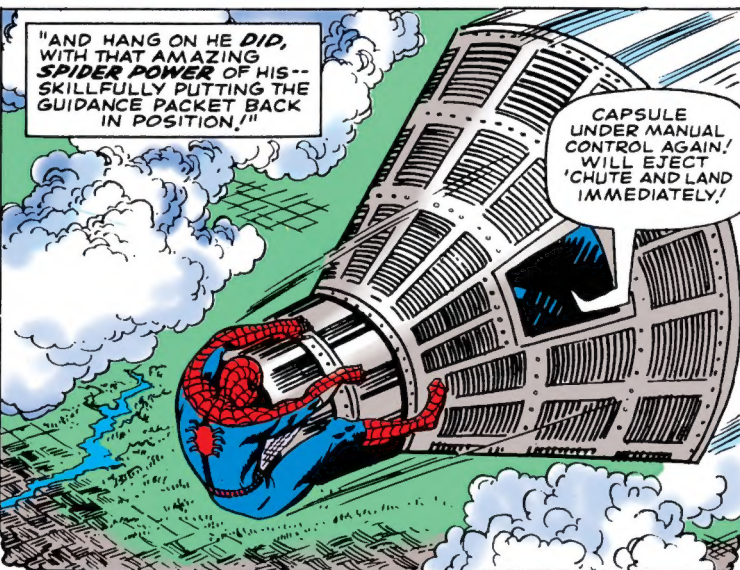
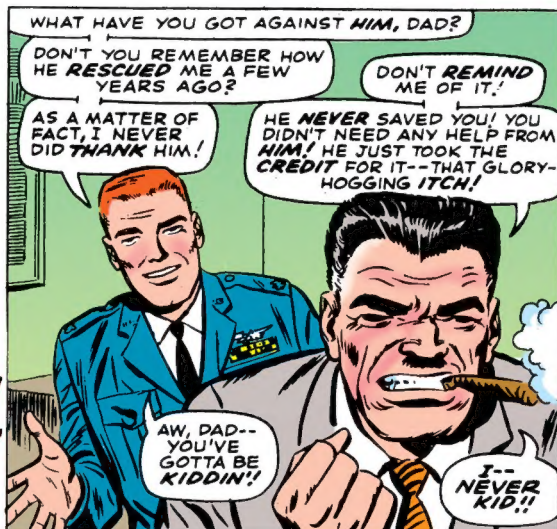
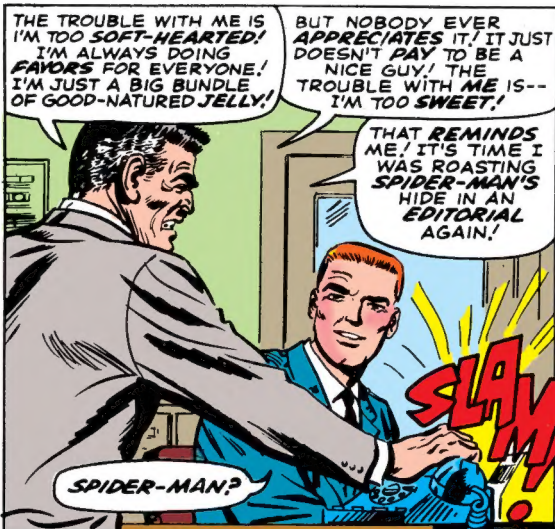


BUT COME TO THINK OF IT, IF HE HAS A DEBT TO PAY OFF, HE'D HAVE TO SELL ME MORE PICTURES--AND I CAN BUY 'EM CHEAPER THAN EVER FROM HIM!

TELL YOU WHAT, PARKER--EVEN THOUGH EVERYONE SAYS I'M TOO GENEROUS FOR MY OWN GOOD, I'LL DO IT FOR YOU!

WOW! GREAT!

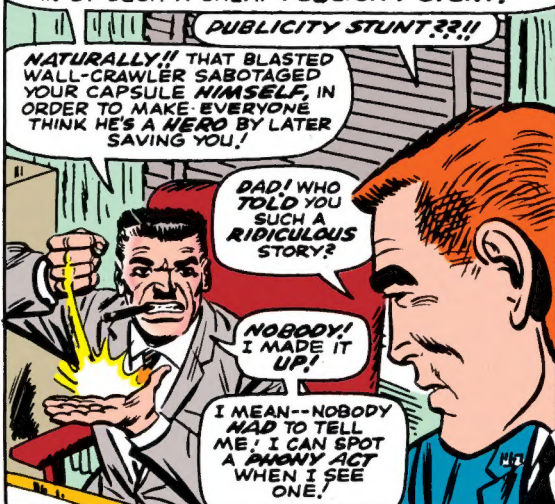
YEAH--CHORTLE--GREAT!



"UNFORTUNATELY, FOR REASONS BEST KNOWN TO HIMSELF, SPIDER-MAN **FLED** BEFORE ANYONE COULD FIND HIM--OR COULD THANK HIM!"



I NEVER THOUGHT MY OWN SON WOULD BE TAKEN IN BY SUCH A CHEAP **PUBLICITY STUNT!**



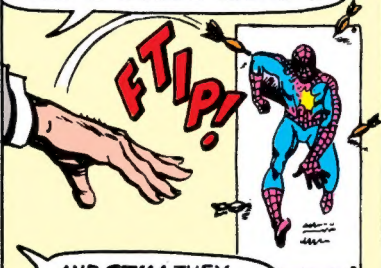
WHY? WHY? **WHY** MUST I BE HAUNTED--HOUNDED--**PLAGUED** BY THAT SNEAKY, CREEPY, ROTTEN, NO-GOOD MASKED MENACE ALL MY LIFE??!!



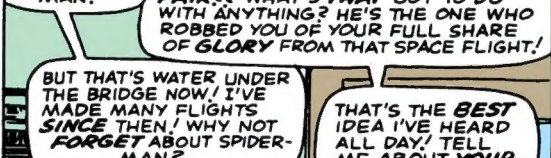
WHY DOESN'T SOMEONE **CATCH HIM--DEFEAT HIM--SQUASH HIM** AGAINST A **WALL--ANYTHING--** SO LONG AS I GET HIM OUT OF MY LIFE!!

DO YOU REALIZE THAT IF NOT FOR **ME--AND MY COURAGEOUS EDITORIALS--** PEOPLE WOULD START MAKING A **HERO** OF THAT **LOWLIFE?**

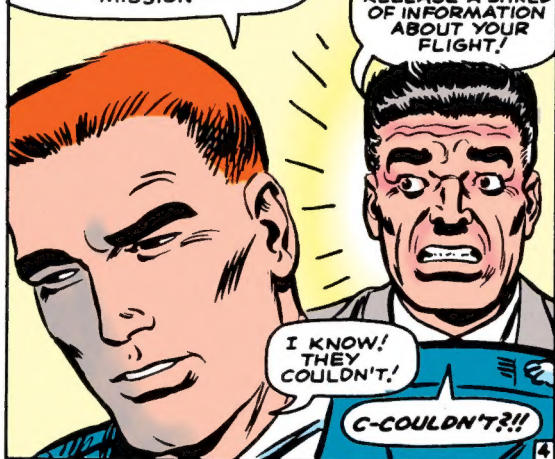
I HAVE TO KEEP **REMINDING THEM--IN MY PAPER--** THAT HE'S A **COWARDLY CROOK--** HIDING BEHIND A MASK TO ESCAPE JUSTICE!!



DAD, DO YOU THINK YOU'RE REALLY BEING **FAIR** TO SPIDER-MAN?



WELL, DAD--THE REASON I CAME HOME ON THIS SUDDEN LEAVE IS--A **STRANGE** THING HAPPENED ON MY LAST SPACE MISSION--



THEY HAD TO MAKE SURE THE **SPACE SPORES** WOULDN'T BE HARMFUL TO EARTH, FIRST!

SPACE SPORES? WHAT SPACE SPORES?!!

SINCE THE INFORMATION HAS JUST BEEN **DECLASSIFIED**, I CAN TELL YOU NOW--!

"AT THE **APOGEE** OF MY ORBIT, AFTER COMPLETING MY **SPACE WALK**, WHEN I RE-ENTERED THE CAPSULE, I FOUND THAT SOME MYSTERIOUS **SPORES** HAD DRIFTED INSIDE **WITH ME**."

"EVEN AFTER **SPLASHDOWN**, THEY CLUNG TO MY SPACE SUIT, THEN LATER TO MY **BODY**!"

THEY **SEEM** HARMLESS ENOUGH, BUT--!

"I WAS SUBJECTED TO INTENSIVE TESTS FOR **DAYS**--AND EVERYTHING APPEARED TO CHECK OUT **A-OKAY**! THE SPORES THEMSELVES GREW WEAKER AND WEAKER, AND FINALLY JUST FADED AWAY!"

BUT THEY MAY HAVE HAD AN EFFECT UPON HIM THAT WON'T SHOW UP UNTIL **LATER**!

HE CAN BE **RELEASED** NOW! THE SPORES ARE COMPLETELY **GONE**!

HE MUST BE KEPT UNDER GUARD FOR AT LEAST **SIX MONTHS**!

CERTAIN NATIONS WOULD GIVE **ANYTHING** TO EXAMINE HIM BEHIND THE **IRON CURTAIN**!

"FROM THAT MOMENT ON, I'VE BEEN UNDER CONTINUAL **SURVEILLANCE**! ARMED AGENTS, ACCOMPANY ME **EVERYWHERE**!"

HOW LONG WILL YOU FELLAS BE PLAYING **NURSE-MAID** TO ME?

UNTIL WE CAN BE **ABSOLUTELY SURE** THOSE **SPORES** DIDN'T AFFECT YOU IN ANY WAY, COLONEL!

BECAUSE, IF THEY **DID**, YOU'D BE A **PRIZE CATCH** FOR ANY HOSTILE NATION ON **EARTH**!

YOU SEE, DAD, THE SPACE AGENCY MEDICS GAINED INVALUABLE INFORMATION BY STUDYING THOSE SPORES AND MY REACTIONS TO THEM--INFORMATION THAT MAY GIVE US THE **BOOST** WE NEED IN THE **SPACE RACE**!

WHICH IS WHY THERE ARE **TWO AGENTS** OUTSIDE THIS DOOR RIGHT **NOW**--AND ANOTHER TEAM READY TO RELIEVE THEM EVERY **SIX HOURS**!

BUT, EVEN AS JONAH JAMESON IS STRUCK **SPEECHLESS**--FOR ONE OF THE FEW TIMES IN HIS LIFE--AN EVENT IS TRANSPIRING MANY MILES AWAY, AT OUR SOUTHERNMOST BORDER--AN EVENT WHICH IS DESTINED TO SERIOUSLY AFFECT THE LIVES, AND THE **SAFETY**, OF OUR COLORFUL LITTLE CAST OF CHARACTERS--

AT **LAST**! AFTER ALL THE LONG MONTHS OF WAITING--PREPARING--COUNTING EVERY MINUTE AND HOUR--IT'S FINALLY TIME FOR THE **RHINO** TO STRIKE!!

HEY, SAM! WHAT IN THE NAME OF CREATION DO YA CALL **THAT**?

I DUNNO! BUT, **WHAT-EVER** IT IS, IT'S NOT GETTING PAST THIS BORDER CHECKPOINT TILL WE **FIND OUT**!

STOMP!



AH, YES! TRIED-AND-TRUE MARVELITES WON'T NEED A BUILDING TO FALL ON THEM IN ORDER TO KNOW THAT THEIR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD SPIDER-MAN WILL SOON BE IN FOR ONE OF THE TOUGHEST FIGHTS OF HIS ENTIRE CRIME-SMASHING CAREER!
 AND SO THE WORLD HAS BEEN GIVEN ITS FIRST INTRODUCTION TO THE MATCHLESS MENACE OF--THE UNSTOPPABLE RHINO!
 BUT NOW WE MOST EARNESTLY REQUEST THAT YOU PREPARE YOURSELF FOR A SUDDEN SURPRISE AS WE SWITCH OUR SCENE BACK TO NEW YORK...
STOMP! STOMP!

WHERE WE FIND AN UNUSUALLY CHEERFUL PETER PARKER WRAPPED IN HIS OWN HAPPY THOUGHTS--!
 JUST CAN'T WAIT TO GET MY HANDS ON THAT LITTLE TWO-WHEELED TORNADO!
 I'LL BET RIDING IT IS ALMOST AS GROOVY AS WEB SWINGING!

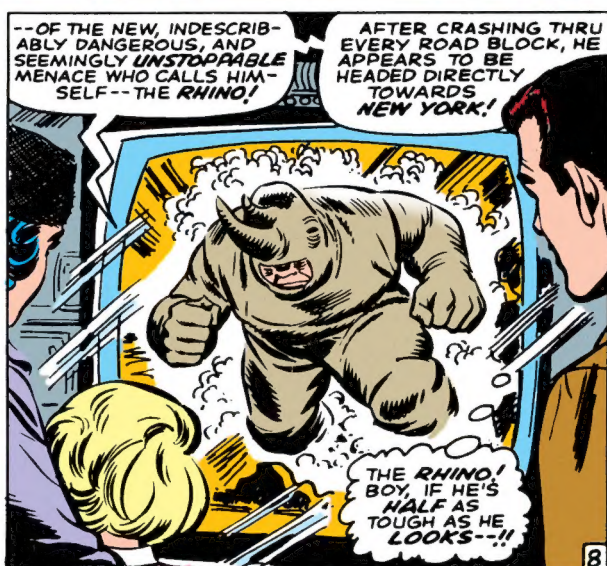
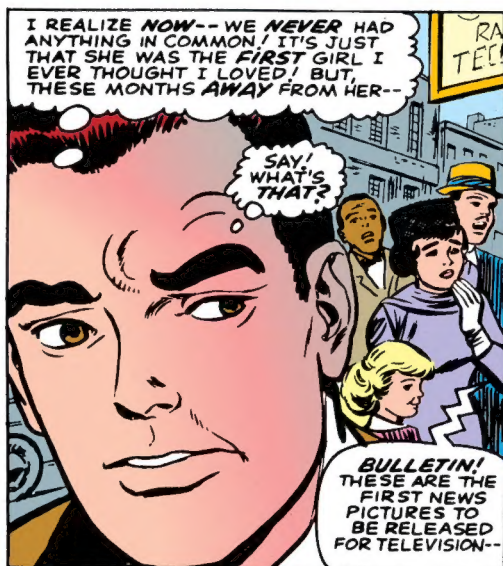
AND THEN, AS SO OFTEN HAPPENS IN THIS UNPREDICTABLE WORLD OF OURS, COMPLETELY BY ACCIDENT--TOTALLY UNEXPECTED--A CHANCE MEETING--!
 BETTY!!
 PETER!! IT--IT'S REALLY YOU!
 GOSH! WHAT A WONDERFUL SURPRISE!! I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW YOU WERE IN TOWN!

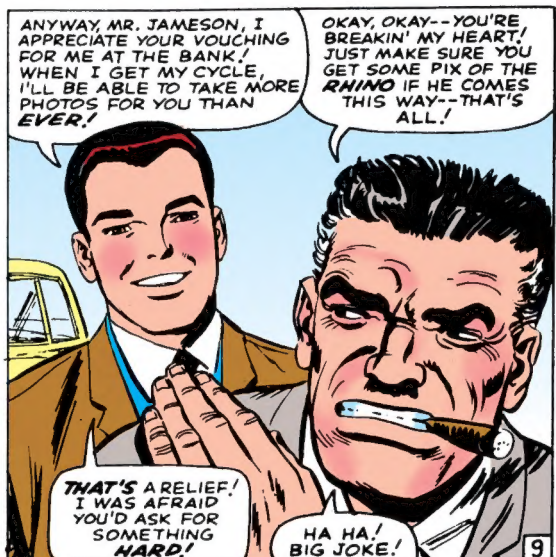
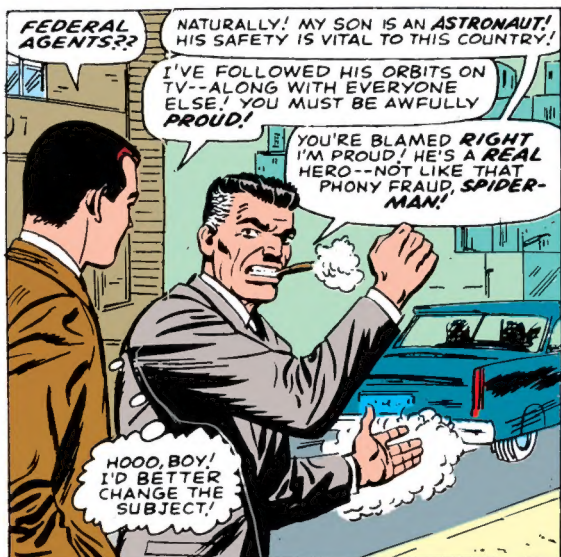
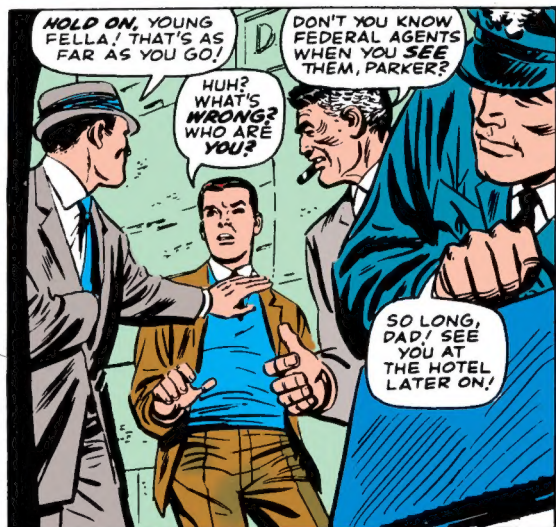
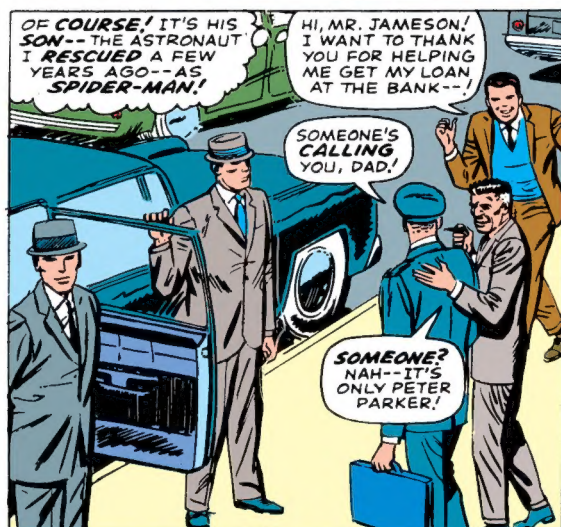
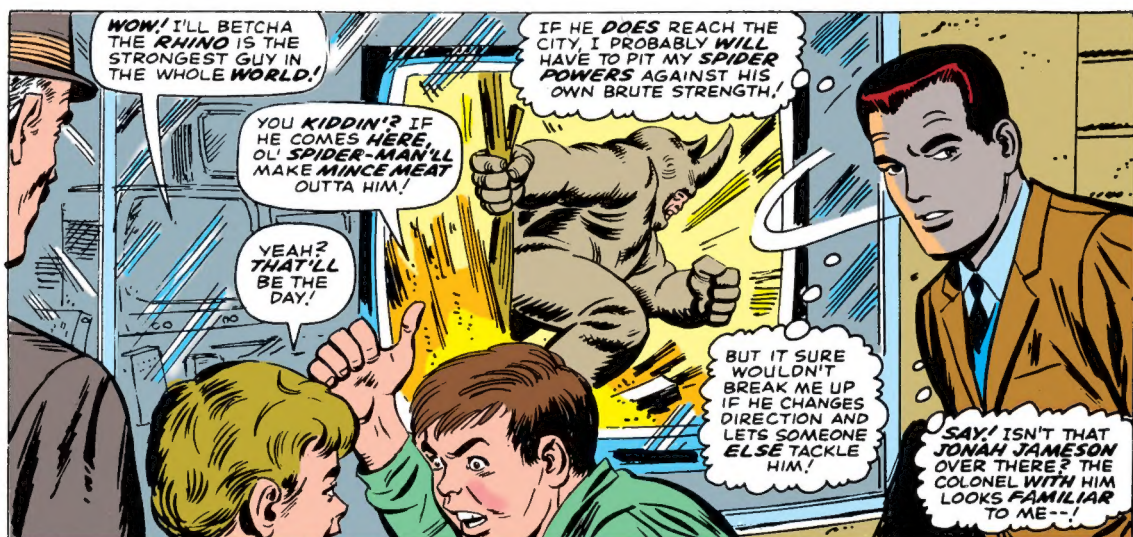
I WASN'T, TILL A FEW MINUTES AGO! I JUST ARRIVED!
 YOU CERTAINLY LOOK WELL, PETER!
 AFTER ALL THESE MONTHS--THAT'S ALL SHE CAN SAY?
 ALTHOUGH--I CAN'T THINK OF ANYTHING BETTER TO SAY!
 WOULD YOU--LIKE A CUP OF COFFEE?
 WHY, YES--THAT WOULD BE NICE!

DID YOU HAVE A NICE TIME ON THE COAST?
 YES, I DID, THANKS! IS EVERYTHING ALL RIGHT WITH YOU--AND YOUR AUNT MAY?
 OH, SURE--WE'RE JUST FINE!
 WHAT'S WRONG? WHAT'S HAPPENED BETWEEN US? WE'RE LIKE TWO STRANGERS, GROPING FOR WORDS!
 HOW IS EVERYTHING AT THE BUGLE, PETER?
 OKAY, I SUPPOSE--!

JONAH JAMESON HAS BEEN AS GROUCHY AS EVER!
 YES--I IMAGINED HE WOULD BE--!
 OH, BRO-THER! THIS IS SHEER TORTURE!
 AND I'LL BET IT'S JUST AS TOUGH FOR HER!

ALL THESE MONTHS--I THOUGHT ABOUT HER--DREAMT ABOUT HER--LONGED FOR HER!!
 WHAT--EVER WE HAD BEFORE--WHATEVER THERE WAS BETWEEN US--IT'S GONE!
 SO, NOW SHE'S RETURNED--
 --AND--NOTHINGSVILLE!
 7





MINUTES LATER, A THOUGHTFUL PETER PARKER APPROACHES HIS MODEST HOME IN FOREST HILLS--



I WONDER WHY THOSE **FEDERAL AGENTS** WERE GUARDING J.J.'S SON?!

IT MUST HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH A SECRET PHASE OF OUR SPACE PROGRAM!

UH-OH! I JUST REALIZED--

HOW IS AUNT MAY GONNA TAKE THE NEWS OF MY NEW BIKE?

HI, AUNT MAY! GUESS WHAT? I JUST MADE A DOWN PAYMENT ON A NEW MOTORCYCLE!



THAT'S NICE, PETER DEAR!

I HOPE YOU'LL DRIVE IT CAREFULLY!

HOLY SMOKE! SHE DIDN'T EVEN BAT AN EYE!

SHE MUST HAVE SOMETHING ELSE ON HER MIND! I WONDER WHAT IT IS?



MRS. WATSON CAME TO VISIT EARLIER, PETER! WE HAD THE NICEST CHAT!

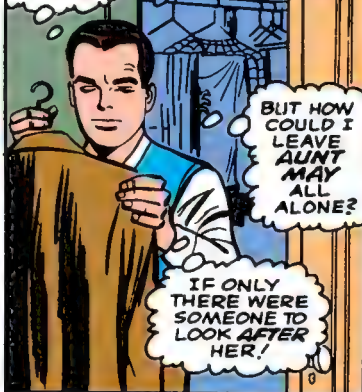
GOOD! WHAT DID YOU TALK ABOUT?

WELL, ACTUALLY SHE WANTED TO KNOW IF I'D--

OH, PSHAW! IT WAS JUST WOMAN TALK! IT WOULDN'T INTEREST YOU!

I WAS RIGHT! SHE IS CONCERNED ABOUT SOMETHING!

WELL, I GUESS SHE'LL TELL ME IN HER OWN GOOD TIME!



GEE, NOW THAT I'M NOT A KID ANY LONGER, HOW I'D LOVE TO HAVE MY OWN APARTMENT!

BUT HOW COULD I LEAVE AUNT MAY ALL ALONE?

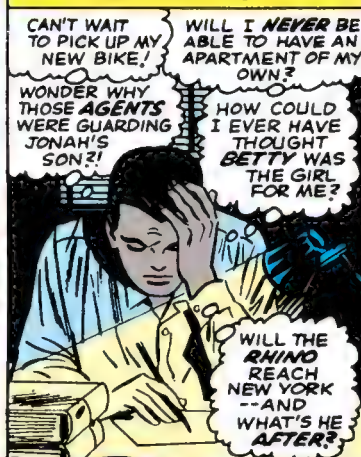
IF ONLY THERE WERE SOMEONE TO LOOK AFTER HER!

WISH I COULD SLIP INTO MY SPIDEY SUIT AND DO SOME ROOFTOP SWINGING --TO CLEAR AWAY THE COBWEBS!



BUT I'D BETTER GET TO WORK ON MY TERM PAPER, INSTEAD--!

BUT STUDY COMES HARD WHEN A THOUSAND SCATTERED THOUGHTS KEEP INTRUDING--



CAN'T WAIT TO PICK UP MY NEW BIKE!

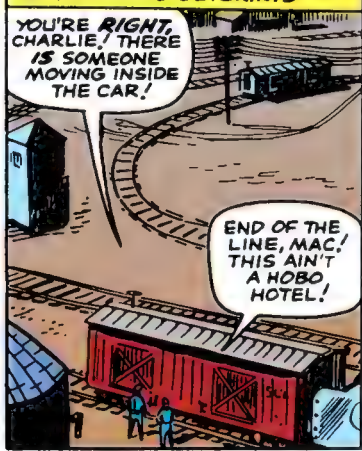
WILL I NEVER BE ABLE TO HAVE AN APARTMENT OF MY OWN?

WONDER WHY THOSE AGENTS WERE GUARDING JONAH'S SON?!

HOW COULD I EVER HAVE THOUGHT BETTY WAS THE GIRL FOR ME?

WILL THE RHINO REACH NEW YORK --AND WHAT'S HE AFTER?

NOTICE THE SNEAKY WAY WE CHANGE OUR SCENES? USING PETE'S LAST THOUGHT AS A SPRINGBOARD, LET'S VISIT A SPRAWLING RAILROAD YARD, ON THE CITY'S OUTSKIRTS--



YOU'RE RIGHT, CHARLIE! THERE IS SOMEONE MOVING INSIDE THE CAR!

END OF THE LINE, MAC! THIS AIN'T A HOBO HOTEL!

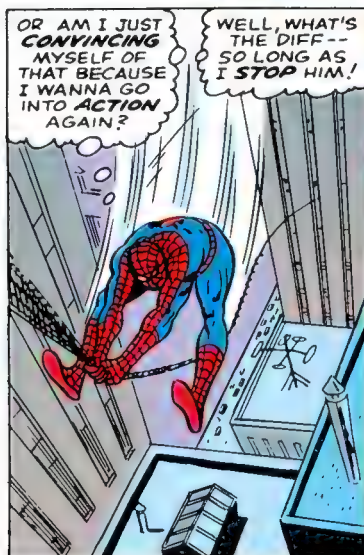
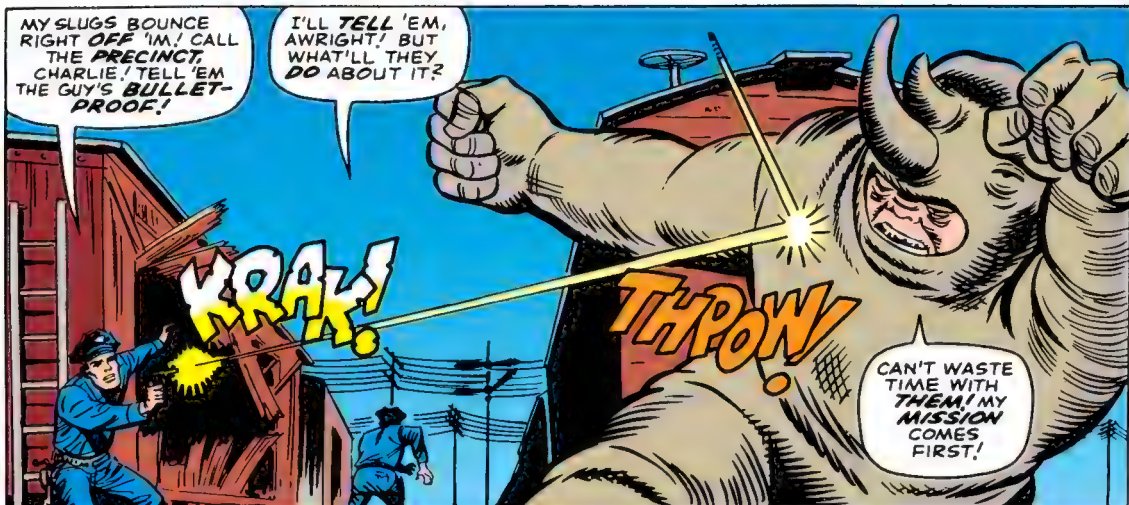


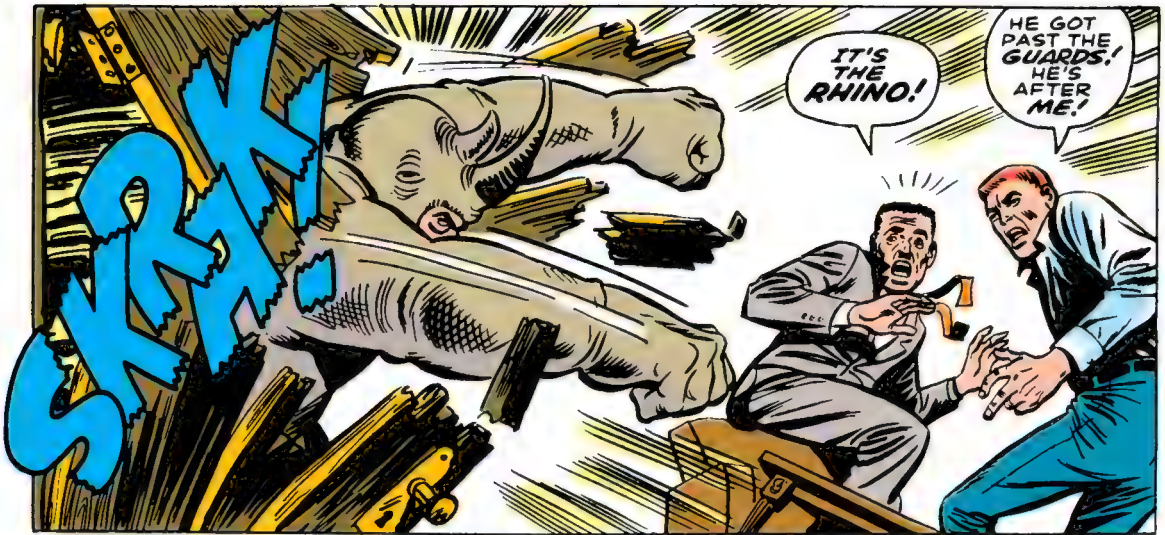
HEY! TH-THAT'S NO ORDINARY BINDLE-STIFF!

IT'S THE RHINO! WE GOTTA STOP 'IM!

NEW YORK --AT LAST!

STOMP!





SECONDS LATER, THE PIERCING WAIL OF POLICE SIRENS LEADS OUR WALL-CRAWLING WONDER TO A MIDTOWN HOTEL--

SQUAD CARS--CONVERGING ACROSS THE STREET!

HOPE I'M NOT TOO LATE!



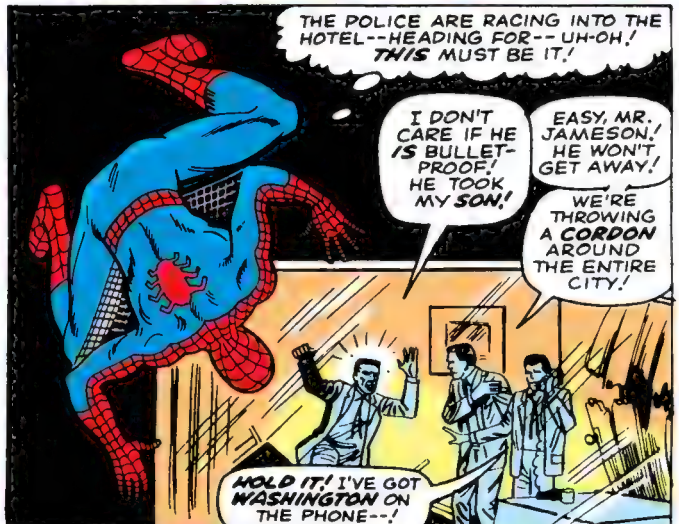
THE POLICE ARE RACING INTO THE HOTEL--HEADING FOR--UH-OH! THIS MUST BE IT!

I DON'T CARE IF HE IS BULLET-PROOF! HE TOOK MY SON!

EASY, MR. JAMESON! HE WON'T GET AWAY!

WE'RE THROWING A CORDON AROUND THE ENTIRE CITY!

HOLD IT! I'VE GOT WASHINGTON ON THE PHONE--!



THAT'S ALL I NEED TO KNOW!

THE RHINO WAS AFTER JAMESON'S SON--THAT'S WHY THE GUARDS!

HE CAN'T HAVE GOTTEN FAR! WITH LUCK, I'LL SPOT HIM FROM UP HERE!

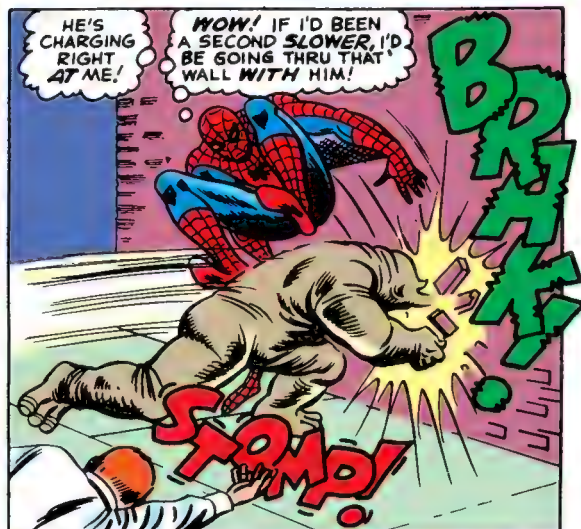
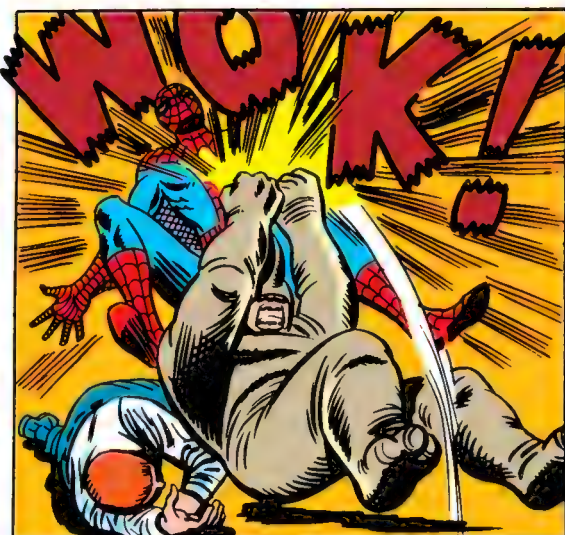
OR MAYBE I'LL BE LUCKIER IF I DON'T SPOT HIM!

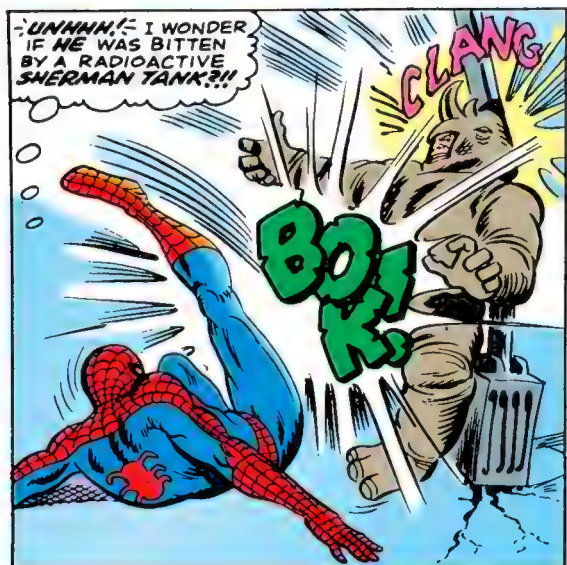
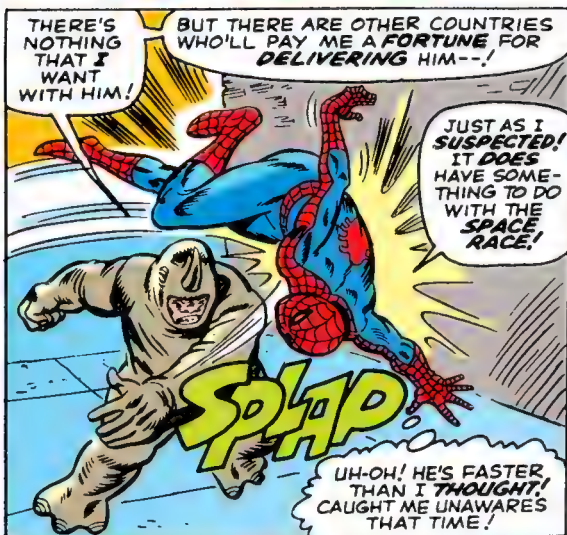
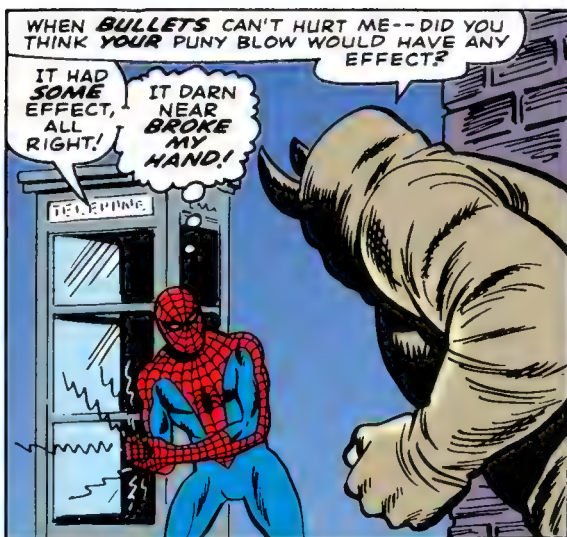


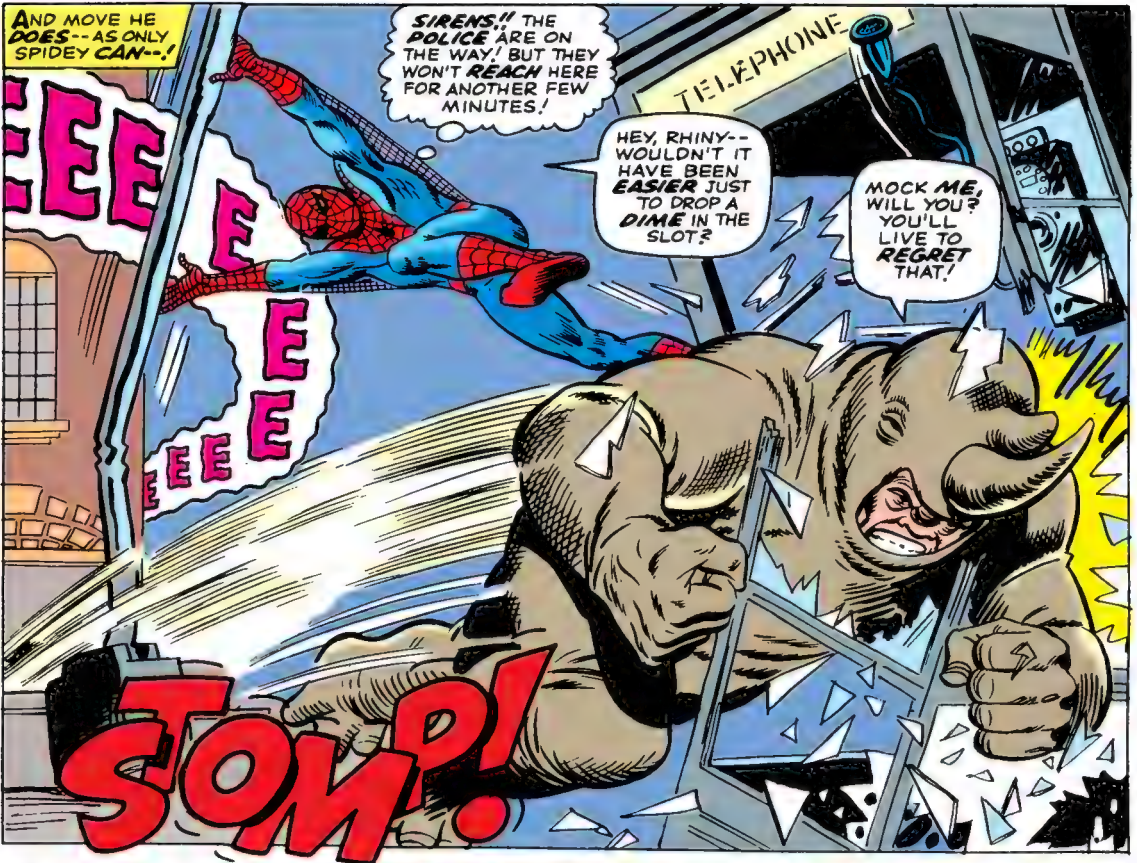
THERE HE IS--CARRYING COLONEL JAMESON AS THOUGH HE'S WEIGHTLESS!

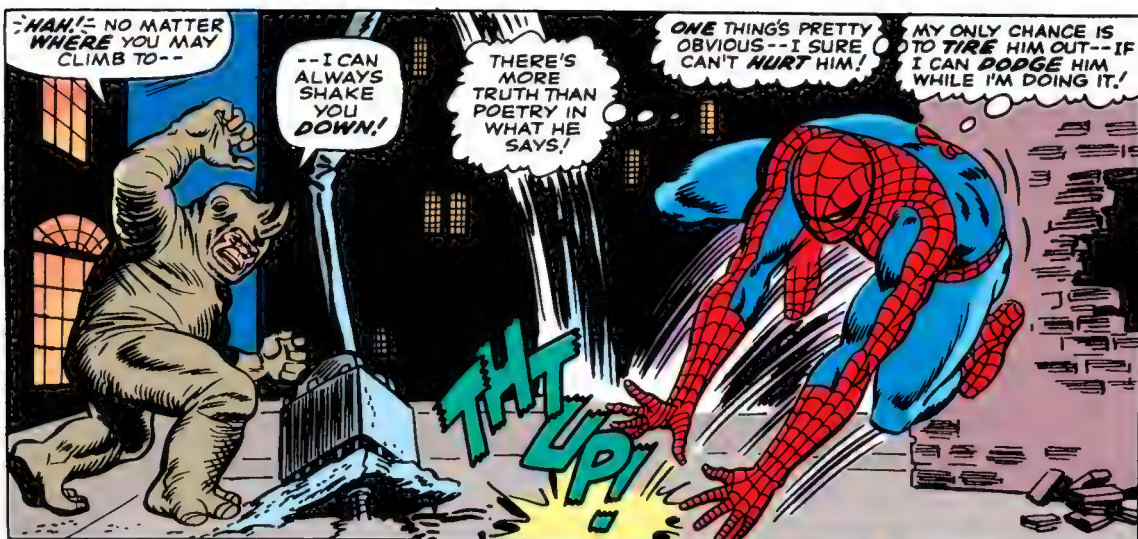
HE'LL BE GONE BY THE TIME THE POLICE GET HERE--SO IT'S UP TO OL' SPIDEY AGAIN!

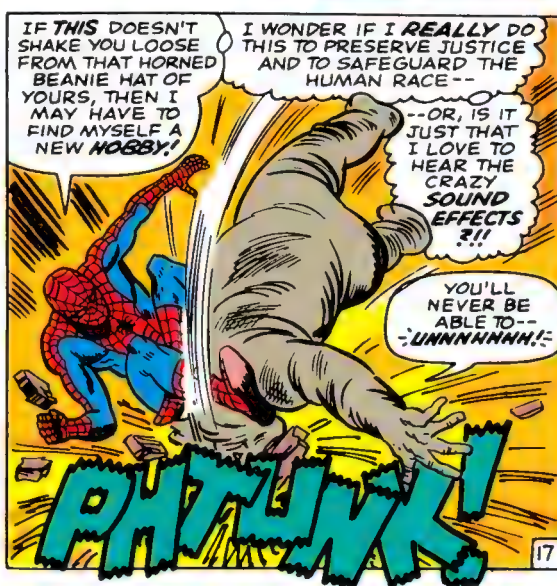
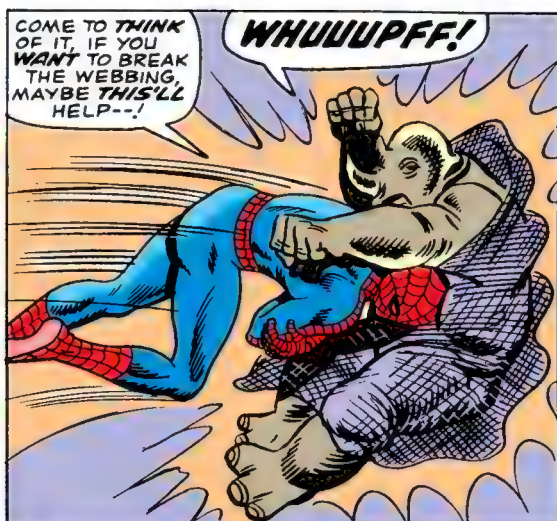


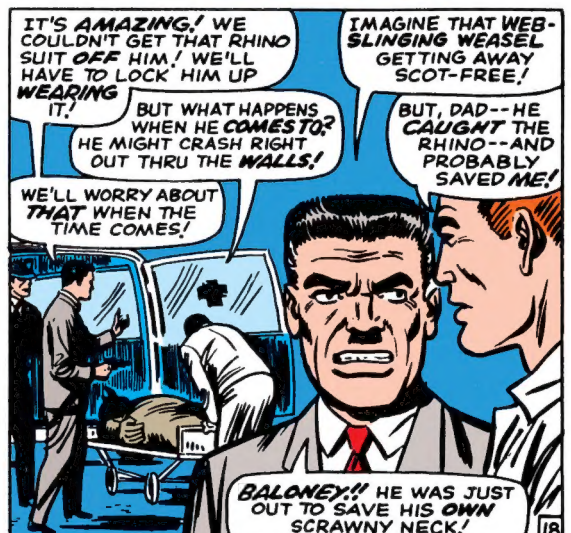
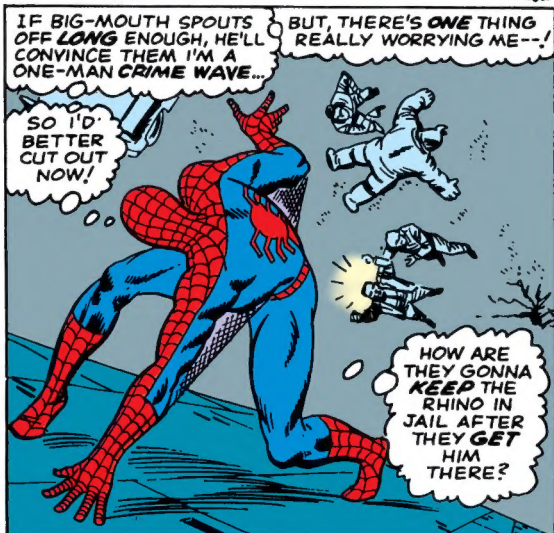














MAYBE SO, DAD--BUT IF NOT FOR SPIDER-MAN, THE RHINO WOULD HAVE PROBABLY DELIVERED ME TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER AMONG THE OTHER HOSTILE WORLD POWERS!

WELL, LET ME TELL YOU SOMETHING--!



FOR ALL WE KNOW, THAT MASKED MENACE WANTED TO GRAB YOU AWAY FROM THE RHINO SO HE HIMSELF COULD CAPTURE YOU!

I DON'T TRUST ANY SO-CALLED SUPER HEROES! AND LEAST OF ALL THAT BLANKETTY-BLANK WEB-SHOOTING CREEP--!

DAD! TAKE IT EASY! THINK OF YOUR BLOOD PRESSURE!!

THUMP!

IF ONLY I COULD PROVE HE'S A NO-GOOD!



I'VE GOT TO RETURN TO THE CAPE NOW, DAD!

TRY TO CALM DOWN AND FORGET ABOUT SPIDER-MAN!

SPIDER-MAN! I NEVER GIVE THAT LOWLIFE A THOUGHT!

FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, HE DOESN'T EVEN EXIST! SPIDER-MAN? WHO'S HE? NEVER HEARD OF HIM!



MEANWHILE-- I CAN'T STOP WORRYING ABOUT THE RHINO! WE KNOW SO LITTLE ABOUT HIM!

IF ONLY I KNEW HIS ORIGIN-- HOW HE GOT HIS POWER-- AND IF HE HAS ANY WEAKNESSES!

NEXT TIME HE'LL BE A LOT HARDER FOR ME TO HANDLE!



MAYBE IF I STUDY THE PHOTOS I TOOK--

OH NO!! I FORGOT TO SET MY AUTO-MATIC CAMERA! THAT MEANS--NO PIX!



BUT OUR HERO'S CHAGRIN VANISHES THE NEXT DAY AS HE TAKES POSSESSION OF HIS NEW CYCLE--

ENJOY IT, PARKER!

JUST WHAT I AIM TO DO, MR. KRAFT!



AT LAST I CAN GET SOMEWHERE IN A HURRY WITHOUT HAVING TO SWITCH TO MY SPIDER-MAN IDENTITY!

LOOK! PETE LATCHED ONTO A PAIR OF WHEELS!

MAYBE HE'S TURNING HUMAN!

PETE! WAIT A MINUTE!

OH--MY LITTLE CHEERING SECTION!



HOW DO YOU LIKE 'ER, GWEN?

A KNOCKOUT, PETE!

JUST LIKE YOU ARE, GWENDOLEN!

WAS I EVER SO WRAPPED UP IN BETTY THAT I COULDN'T SEE THIS LIVING PINUP UNDER MY NOSE!

SOMETHING TELLS ME MY LUCK IS ABOUT TO CHANGE!

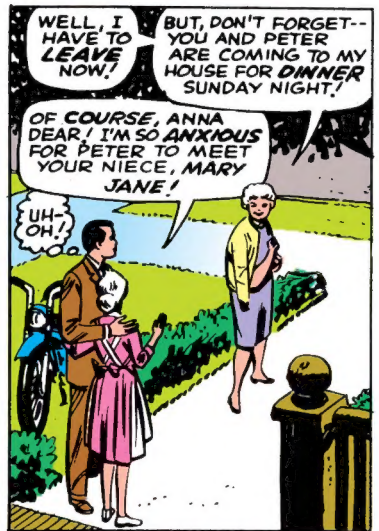
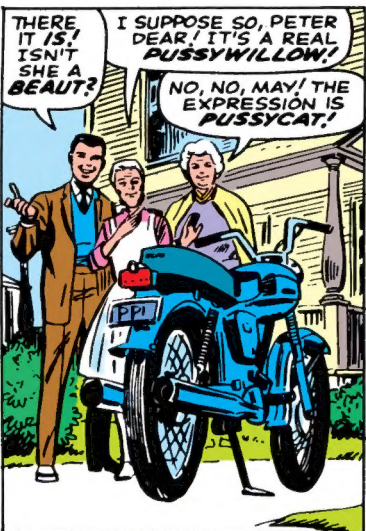


ACTUALLY, I NEVER THOUGHT OF YOU AS THE MOTOR-CYCLE TYPE BEFORE, PETE!

YOU DIDN'T? WHY NOT?

OH, I DON'T KNOW--

SHE--ALMOST LOOKS--DISAPPOINTED!





Tyrant
Lizard
King

EMPIRE